

VALUE FOR YOUR DOLLAR



CITY OF BLOOMINGTON ORGANIZATIONAL CHART

BLOOMINGTON’S CHARTER PROVIDES for a council-manager government. The City Council and Mayor, who serve part time, are elected by the people, exercise legislative power and determine all City policies. Advisory boards and commissions gather information and advise the City Council on specific issues. Policy development and day-to-day operations are directed by the Council-appointed City Manager. The City Manager oversees the eight departments and the Technical Services Group that carry out the services, activities and policies of the City of Bloomington.

Imagine...

continually well-maintained streets and a savings of \$113 million by 2025.

The Pavement Management Program increases a street’s lifespan and reduces overall costs to property owners by using preventative maintenance strategies, such as overlays, to delay costly reconstruction. It is predicted that only 7 percent of streets will fall into the problem category by 2025, compared to 46 percent of streets that would fall into the problem category if no overlay strategies were used.

HOW TAX DOLLARS BUY CITY SERVICES
HIGH-QUALITY CITY SERVICES REMAIN REASONABLY PRICED FOR BLOOMINGTON RESIDENTS

RESIDENTS RECEIVE A VARIETY OF CITY services at an affordable price. The cost of City services in 2007 for the owner of a median-priced, single-family home in Bloomington with an assessor’s market value of \$244,800 is \$62.66 per month. Utilities remain competitively priced in 2007. The value received from City services compares favorably to charges for other monthly bills.

Net property tax cost is obtained by subtracting all revenue sources other than the property tax from departmental expenditures. Water and sewer utilities are fee-based.

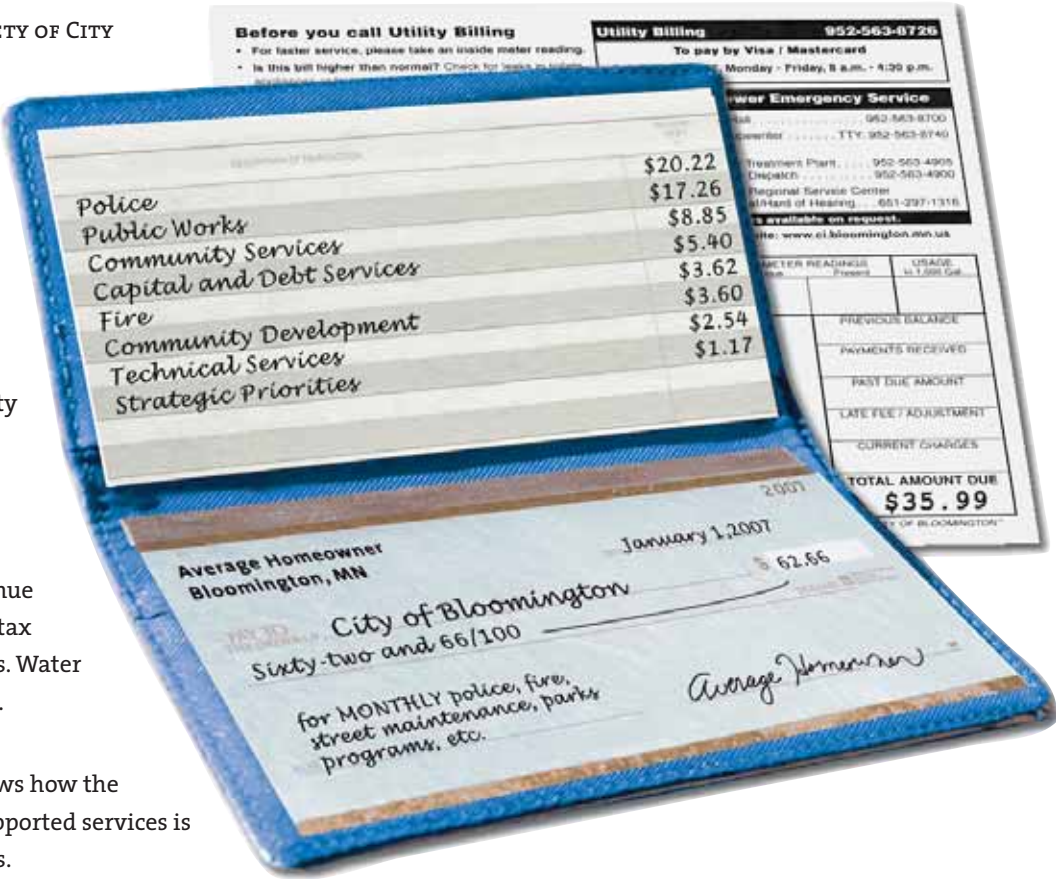
Property tax-supported services

The checkbook, *at right*, shows how the monthly cost of property tax-supported services is divided among City departments.

Monthly cost of utilities

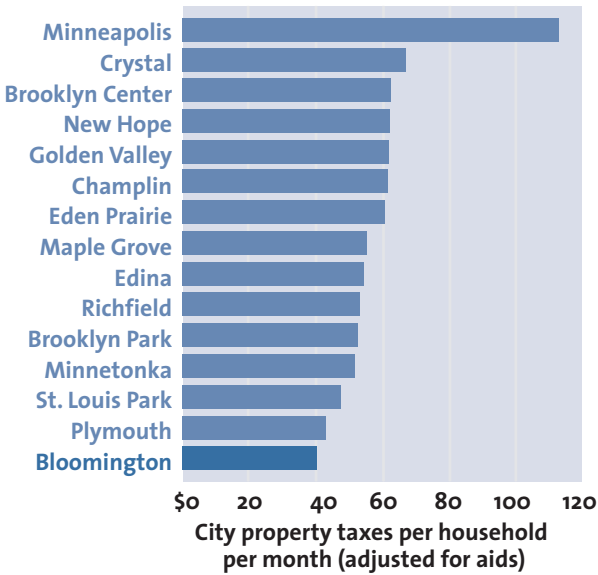
Based on an average usage of 7,500 gallons per month, monthly cost of utilities for a home in Bloomington is \$35.99 in 2007. *See above illustration.* Services include water, sewer, stormwater and solid waste.

Note: Water bills are mailed bimonthly and average \$71.98 per bill.



BLOOMINGTON RANKS WELL IN HENNEPIN COUNTY TAX RATE COMPARISON

IN A 2006 COMPARISON OF 15 COMMUNITIES IN HENNEPIN COUNTY WITH MORE THAN 20,000 residents, the average household cost of services in terms of property taxes



and property tax aids (when adjusted for fiscal disparities) showed Bloomington ranking lowest. The average household, including single-family dwellings, condominiums, townhomes and apartments in Bloomington paid \$40.03 per month in property taxes to the City.

STRONG HOME VALUE GROWTH CONTINUES



CITY SERVICES PROVIDE A STABLE foundation, helping home values grow. Median home value increased from \$231,200 in 2005 to \$244,800 in 2006, a 5.9 percent increase.

The City works hard to provide a broad range of quality municipal services at one of the lowest property tax costs per household among Hennepin County communities with more than 20,000 residents. Homeowners’ investment of approximately \$752 per year in City services has helped the median home value to increase more than \$17,600 per year for the past five years. Investing in services is one of the factors that helps promote home equity appreciation.

DIVIDING UP YOUR 2007 TAX DOLLAR

YOUR TAX DOLLAR IS DIVIDED AMONG SEVERAL GOVERNMENTAL entities. As the graphic shows, for every dollar of taxes paid, 34 cents are for City services.

The actual amount of taxes owed is based on market value, tax law and the levy. The levy for all local governmental entities is spread across properties within each entity’s respective boundaries using tax capacity, a function of market value and property type. After applying educational aids, a Bloomington homeowner with a median-valued home pays \$2,558 in property taxes. Of that, \$752, or \$62.66 per month, goes to the City for services. The remaining \$1,806 goes to the School District, County and other taxing districts.

